

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Over the past five months of this fiscal year, we have been quite busy with an array of successful events beginning with the Legacy Tea in October and ending with the Black Pearls' Conference on the 23rd of this month. The next several months will be equally busy and prayerfully just as successful. Our goal of increasing community outreach has definitely been accomplished.

Social media awareness of our section has definitely plummeted. Help us keep the momentum going by "liking, commenting and sharing" on all outlets, including Facebook; National Council of Negro Women Facebook; twitter; and Instagram. Thanks to all members who already participate.

Sisterly, Thelma



HISTORIAN'S CORNER

By 1915 Mrs. Bethune had assembled an impressive list of philanthropists, including James Gamble of the Proctor and Gamble Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. She wrote to him about her school and then one day appeared on his door step, introducing herself as Mary McLeod Bethune. She asked him to be a trustee. He asked a "trustee of what"? she replied, "a trustee of a dream'.

Cynthia B. Glenn, Historian

BLACK PEARLS NEWS



The Black Pearls kicked-off Black History Month celebrations at West Minister Suncoast. The audience was filled with residents from several facilities. Performances included dance; poetry; and portrayals of several iconic Black women, i.e. Dr. Bethune, Dorothy Height, Ingrid Saunders-Jones. Coretta Scott King, etc. Our girls excelled, and the guests were definitely impressed. It was truly a fun-filled evening.

The Black Pearls Young Women's Conference highlighted literacy through writing. Essays on "Most Admired Woman" were solicited from students at Pinellas County Schools and over 100 were submitted. Six winners were selected and honored at the program on February 23rd at Pinellas Technical College with a certificate and monetary award. Many

of the contestants' family and friends were present along with members of the Black Pearls and the St. Petersburg Metropolitan Section of NCNW. Congratulations to Director, Sandra Gibson, the Advisors and the Black Pearls for another successful event.

Black Pearl, Sa'Coya McKenzie, was one of the featured singers in the play "Ain't Misbehaving" at Gibbs High Auditorium on February 24th. It was a wonderful production and Sa'Coya was delightful...HATS OFF TO HER! Sa'Coya we can envision you on Broadway!



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NEW MEMBER NEWS

Please welcome to our February new members:

- Gwen Reese (Thelma Bruce)
- Irene Pridgeon (Thelma Bruce)
- Grace Thompson (Thelma Bruce)
- Anne Killen (Deshay Collier)

As our family continues to grow, let's extend the right hand of fellowship, friendship, and sisterhood!

SECTION EVENTS

March 7th - SPMS Executive Board Meeting; 6:00 pm; FAP Council House

March 10th- Black Pearls' General Membership Meeting; 2-4:00 pm; FAP Council House

March 16th - SPMS General Membership Meeting; 9:00 am social time; 9:30 am meeting begins.

March 23rd - Black Pearls' Annual Tea; 12:00 noon; Pinellas Technical College (PTC); 901 34th St. So.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Human Trafficking Town Hall on February 15th at St. Pete College Mid-town organized by Audrey Pat McGhee was phenomenal. It was an honor for St. Petersburg Metropolitan Section to serve as co-sponsor for this event. The guest speakers were knowledgeable, informative and engaging! While some information was shocking, it was needed. Human Trafficking is a growing problem throughout the world, including right here in the Tampa Bay area. It is a problem we all must tackle together. Awareness is necessary.....knowledge is power; WE MUST STAY WOKE!

Yours in Service,



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Betty Hayward	3/16
Carol Moore	3/24
Joan Thurmond	3/26
Ethel Robinson	3/31

Prayer List

Allene Gammage-Ahmed Deshay Collier Dr. Ada Davis Dr. Marva Dennard Signora Farris Carolyn Hobbs Rene Waymon

"For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord" Jeremiah 30:17 KJV

NATIONAL NEWS

On behalf of National Headquarters, Ms. Janice Mathis warns all sections they must file the 990 Income Tax Report Form by February 15th. While we are tax exempt, it is mandatory that we file annually. Failure to do so would result in loss of the section's taxexempt status. REST ASSURED SPMS, OUR TAXES WERE E-FILED ON FEBRUARY 4th BY BOLLENBACK AND FORRET.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

"Thank God for what you have, trust God for what you need"!

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Thelma